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Boston, Aug. 10, 1882.

As we have already notified our Subscribers by Postal Card, the delay in the issue of the present number of the Journal was caused by a fire in the building in which it was printed, and which destroyed or damaged it to such an extent as to make it worthless for circulation. This however gave us the opportunity to begin our new volume with an entire new dress, in which we now present it to our readers. We have reprinted it as it stood, preferring to do this rather than substitute some later accounts of Coin Sales, especially of the Bushnell Collection, which of course have now come to hand. This explanation is given,—though perhaps it is unnecessary,—to account for the delay in publication to those who may not have received the postal.